

Your guide to the 2022 International Charrette –
Designing Climate Ready Communities

2021– 22

Institute without Boundaries

International Charrette

www.institutewithoutboundaries.ca



**INSTITUTE WITHOUT
BOUNDARIES**

Each year, the Institute without Boundaries challenges students from around the world to fundamentally rethink what it means to be a designer.

Design For Change

It is our view that design—the human capacity to plan and produce desired outcomes—has placed us at the beginning of an unprecedented period in human possibility, where all systems and economies are interconnected.

Design is a tool for exploration and innovation; a tool to help us seek out patterns in ourselves and the complex, interconnected systems shaping society; and a tool to imagine, visualize and manifest desired futures. As such, designers can influence society to anticipate, control and direct emerging forces in order to achieve the most desirable human experiences.

Our aim is to produce a new breed of designer—one who is, in the words of Buckminster Fuller, a “synthesis of artist, inventor, mechanic, objective economist, and evolutionary strategist.”

Just as wicked problems span across social, political, economic and environmental boundaries, the new breed of designer must do the same—challenging 20th century paradigms of a divided and specialized workforce.

Diverse, interdisciplinary, intergenerational and fluid teams will shape the 21st century. As human-centered practitioners, we have a tremendous opportunity to shape a more humanist and inclusive world, and it starts by remembering our roots: finding and addressing real human needs, upholding human values, and creating meaningful human experiences.

Let's change the world!

Join us on
February 23 – 28, 2022
for the annual
International Charrette
at the School of Design

What is a Charrette?

A charrette is an intense, collaborative, creative process that brings together stakeholders from diverse backgrounds to develop holistic design solutions in response to complex organizational challenges. Charrettes create a framework for innovation that encourages participants to step outside their comfort zone to gain new perspectives and generate disruptive results.

This is an opportunity for students to immerse themselves in a unique design challenge, collaborate with peers and professionals from around the world, and be exposed to new tools, methods and approaches that will challenge them to become a better designer.

Why Participate?

The IwB is an internationally recognized post-graduate design program and think-tank. By participating in this charrette you will be exposed to our philosophies, tools, values and methods, which will change the way you approach problem solving.

1. Cross-Boundaries

The IwB is rooted in collaborative design practice, bringing together a variety of disciplines to solve challenges.

2. Broaden Horizons

The International Charrette is truly a global event. It embodies the values of a global village promoting cultural diversity and exchange that fosters creativity and results in lasting connections. Students, faculty and professionals from local and international institutions will take part in 2022.

3. 21st Century Design Skills

This event will expose you to a variety of design processes, tools and methods. This includes exposure to our unique charrette process, systems thinking and mapping, temporal frameworks, foresight and scenario building, data visualization and storytelling techniques.

The Design Challenge

How might we design products, services, infrastructure and environments for people and communities that are displaced due to Climate Change?

Designing

Climate Ready

Communities

The climate crisis has been fostered by the human disregard of the environment generated by our urban settlements and by the pollution of the natural and rural environments that support them. Over time, this has resulted in the destruction of habitats and environments for both animals and humans. The result of these negative activities is eradicating species and forcing patterns of migration that grow out of the “desertification” or “inundation” of once habitable places. People and wildlife have begun to migrate seeking places of refuge to survive and to continue living.

One of the many impacts of climate change is environmental migration where people move from one part of the region to another or to a new country as a result of severe natural disasters. How will we manage the dual emerging crisis of climate change and human migration which may go well beyond the migrations of the 19th and 20th century, when rural populations moved to cities? Will we attempt to reverse negative impacts of human activity to avert a climate crisis? Will we build barriers to protect ourselves and our lifestyle condemning others to poverty and desperation? Will we reimagine places that mend or regenerate “broken” environments? How can we enact global change through local, grassroots initiatives?

In 2021-22 the students and faculty at the Institute without Boundaries (IwB) are researching and proposing local solutions to help communities adapt to the many impacts of climate change including but not limited to environmental migration.

Charrette

Description

During the 2022 International Charrette, the students at the Institute without Boundaries (IwB) will collaborate with students, faculty and advisors from local and international organizations to propose design interventions that will help prepare communities for the impacts of climate change such as environmental migration.

Building upon key research insights, students will participate in a five day design Charrette to research and propose frameworks for Designing Climate Ready Communities. This will enable the participants to expand on their research into climate change and environmental migration and propose design solutions to prepare communities for displacement due to climate change.

In doing so, participants will synthesize their research insights and propose systemic solutions for designing accessible and inclusive products, services, and environments.

Charrette Questions

1. How might we reimagine structures and systems that are actually making things worse for the environment?
2. How might we design equitable systems that are life-centered as opposed to human-centered?
3. How might we design environments, products, and services that could result in systemic change and make communities more adaptive to migration?
4. How can we change perceptions around climate migration and use it as an opportunity to improve economic development?

The International
Charrette will take
place in-person in
alignment with health
and safety guidelines
set out by George
Brown College.

George Brown **College Vaccine** **Policy**

All students, employees, contractors, volunteers and visitors coming onto college premises are required to be fully vaccinated.

The college will abide by its commitments under the Ontario Human Rights Code and consider accommodation requests based on medical and/or religious/creed grounds.

For more information, visit [COVID-19 Vaccination Policy](#).

Let's transform the world! Our aim is to produce a new breed of designer who can articulate possibilities...

Register **Today!**

When:

Wednesday, February 23 – Monday, February 28, 2022

Where:

School of Design, George Brown College
3 Lower Jarvis Street, Toronto, ON, M5E 3Y5

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Please fill out the [2022 International Charrette Registration Form](#) by January 31, 2022.



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